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CIA DEPUTY
BY MICHAEL J. SNITKEN

WASHINGTON (AP) -- PRESIDENT REAGAN IS EXPECTED TO NOMINATE A 31-YEAR VETERAN OF CIA, JOHN MCMAHON, TO REPLACE ADM. BOBBY R. INMAN AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, ADMINISTRATION SOURCES SAY.

THE SOURCES, WHO ASKED NOT TO BE IDENTIFIED, SAID MCMAHON, WHO AS CIA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NOW HOLDS THE AGENCY'S NO. 3 POST, HAD BEEN RECOMMENDED BY CIA DIRECTOR WILLIAM J. CASEY AND SCREENED BY THE PRESIDENT'S AIDES.

THEY SAID REAGAN MIGHT ANNOUNCE THE NOMINATION AS EARLY AS TODAY.

MCMAHON WOULD HAVE TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE AND HEARINGS WOULD BE HELD BY THE SENATE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE, SOME MEMBERS OF THAT PANEL HAVE EXPRESSED PUBLIC CONCERN OVER THE CHOICE OF A DEPUTY SINCE INMAN'S INTENTION TO ENTER PRIVATE BUSINESS WAS ANNOUNCED BY THE WHITE HOUSE WEDNESDAY.

FIRST WORD THAT A DECISION HAD BEEN MADE CAME SUNDAY FROM COMMITTEE MEMBER HENRY JACKSON, D-WASH, ON CBS-TV'S ''FACE THE NATION.'' SEN. JACKSON SAID THAT A VETERAN, CAREER OFFICIAL WOULD BE NAMED TODAY AND ''IT WILL BE A MAN THAT ALL OF US RESPECT IN THE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE.''

ALTHOUGH JACKSON WOULD NOT IDENTIFY THE CHOICE BY NAME, THE SENATOR SAID, ''I THINK HE IS A FIRST-RATE PROFESSIONAL AND WILL HELP THE MORALE WITHIN THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE BECAUSE HE WAS BEEN SELECTED OUT OF THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE.''

BEFORE BECOMING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MCMAHON, 52, HAD RUN THE AGENCY'S NATIONAL FOREIGN ASSESSMENTS CENTER, WHICH PRODUCES INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES FOR THE GOVERNMENT. DURING THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION, HE WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS, IN CHARGE OF THE AGENCY'S CLANDESTINE SPY NETWORK.

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